

# CARTSNEWS

*The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society*

ISSUE #50

May 2016

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**G**reetings to all CARTS members.

I hope that you are not having too much trouble with the pollen, but if you are, here's some good news. CARTS is having a meeting on April 30! Don Bailey has made all the arrangements to rent the same meeting room that we used back in November 2014. The meeting will take place at the **Hampton Inn located near the intersection of I-85 and US Hwy 221 near Spartanburg** South Carolina. The hotel is off Exit 78 (Chesnee Exit), towards the town of Chesnee. See below for more particulars.

I look forward to seeing all of you there. Please mark your calendars – April 30, from 8:00 AM to noon.

Regards,  
Tony Chibbaro, President of CARTS

### DETAILED DIRECTIONS

If coming from the west, take exit 78, turn left and cross I-85. Once you are across the interstate, turn right onto Sha Lane—between the Sunoco station and the Subway sandwich shop. You will see the hotel just ahead.

Coming from the east, exit, turn right, and turn right again almost immediately onto Sha Lane.

If you approach Spartanburg from the north or south on I-26, take I-85N (east) and proceed as above.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**T**here's Good News!

Though we've had a couple of members resign due to health problems, our membership is holding steady thanks to new members joining. And treasurer Bob King reports a balance of \$752.05 as of March 9.

But we can't become complacent. Let's everyone try to recruit a new member. We need about 10 to 15 new members.

Also, let's everyone bring something to the April meeting for "show and tell." That worked out extremely well at our last meeting. Tony's show and tell was especially informative and entertaining.

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know! **Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!**

# NEW FINDS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

**Tony Chibbaro**



**Frierson's, 261 King St., GF One 5 Cent Glass of Soda, (Charleston, S.C.) – aluminum, 24mm.**

During the late 1880s and early 1890s, Dickey Price Frierson (1863-1948) clerked at the King Street drug stores of W.G. Martin and Herman Hummel. In 1895, however, he partnered with J.B. Gist to open a pharmacy at 261 King Street. D.P. Frierson & Co., as the partnership was called, was in business until 1899 when Gist left the business. Frierson, whose father was both a druggist and a physician, then brought in one of his brothers, who was a pharmacist as well, to help him man the store in the absence of Gist. John H. Frierson (1881-1960) clerked in his older brother's store for several years before going into business for himself in 1907, opening the Frierson-Marvin Drug Co. up the street at 279 King. This business was short-lived and the partnership with S.A. Marvin was dissolved in 1911. In 1913, the elder Frierson sold his store to his younger brother and the Frierson Drug Store (Inc.) was chartered. F.J. Felder was president of the firm, while John H. Frierson was secretary-treasurer. The store remained on King Street for the next several decades although the name was changed to Frierson Drug Company in 1920. The elder Frierson moved to Kingstree after selling out to his brother, farming and working there part time as a pharmacist.

Sometime after 1950 the Frierson Drug Company was purchased by Drs. Stroup and Kennedy and was moved to 162 Wentworth Street, several blocks removed from King Street. The business persisted there for several more decades until it was sold to Rite Aid Drug Company in the 1990s. The corporation still exists and is in good standing with the South Carolina Secretary of State's office, but now functions as a part-time antique sales business on James Island run by Croskeys R. Welch, Jr.



**The Wigwam, 1248 Main St., GF 5¢ In Trade, (Columbia, S.C.) – aluminum, 20mm.**

John W. Wilkinson (1889-1946) was employed as a bookkeeper for the Palmetto National Bank when he and J.C. Gasque invested \$5,000 in a business venture they named "The Wigwam". This was in the latter half of 1917 and the new firm offered cigars, sodas, sandwiches, and billiards in a storefront located at 1248 Main Street. Gasque, as junior partner, managed the enterprise while Wilkinson maintained his job at the bank, which was located only a block and a half away. Around 1919, Wilkinson opened another business, the Interstate Motor Company, which handled automotive sales and repairs. And in 1920, he opened a third business, a second billiard parlor only a few blocks away from the first. By 1923, however, a business reversal forced the sale of The Wigwam and the closing of Wilkinson's other two endeavors. The Wigwam went through a succession of owners after that, starting with W.H. Holcombe and ending with W.W. Connelly & H.B. Tinman, but was out of

business by 1927. The token was likely issued during The Wigwam's first year of business.



John W. Wilkinson had this ad placed in the 1918 Columbia City Directory to highlight his billiard parlor named The Wigwam.



**McGee Mfg. Co., Greenville, S.C. – brass, 24mm.**

McGee Manufacturing Company was chartered on March 12, 1903 with a capitalization of \$100,000. Henry P. McGee (1850-1938), a local banker and dry goods merchant, served as company president and treasurer, and his son, Charles M. McGee (1881-1944) was the firm's secretary and cotton buyer. The "Waste Mill", as it was called, was constructed just east of the city limits on the Charleston & Western Carolina Railway near Laurens Road. The firm purchased waste cotton from the mills in the immediate area and converted it into yarns, sizes Nos. 4 to 8. In its early years, the mill operated 3,200 spindles and provided employment for about 50 operatives. In 1908 the company's capitalization was increased to \$175,000 which provided for the addition of some 2,000 spindles and 44 looms.

In September of 1918 McGee Manufacturing Company was succeeded by

Beaver Duck Mills, which was headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. The mill was retrofitted to manufacture cotton duck in addition to the yarns it had traditionally produced. During 1920, a further consolidation placed the mill under the control of Couch Cotton Mills Company, which also operated Couch Mills of Atlanta and Beaver Cotton Mills of Thomson, Georgia. In 1923, Lullwater Manufacturing Company of East Point, Georgia acquired the mill and continued the production of cotton duck for several years. By 1931, however, the property had been sold to Westboro Weaving Company of Westboro, Massachusetts. The mill was reconfigured to produce tapes and narrow fabrics. Westboro continued making narrow fabrics into the 1970s, as well as expanding its line into rayon products. The mill closed sometime prior to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the building no longer stands.



**E.R. Bullard, Naval Stores Operator, GF 5¢ In Merchandise, Luray, S.C. – aluminum, 20mm.**

Eddie Russ Bullard (1885-1940) was born in Robeson County, North Carolina, the son of D.D. Bullard, a naval stores manufacturer. As a young man, Bullard served in the army and was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. After military service, he moved to Georgia and took a job in Brunswick at the picric acid plant being built there to manufacture munitions for use during World War I. But the plant was never completed and Bullard later moved to South Carolina to open a naval stores distillery near Luray. Mercantile directories listed his



operation in Luray from 1924 to 1926, but from 1927 to 1940, his location was shown at nearby Varnville. Bullard died in 1940 and was buried in the Varnville Cemetery.

Located in western Hampton County, the town of Luray was chartered by the state legislature in December of 1891. The hamlet was laid out by surveyor and first mayor M.W. Youmans, Sr., and was given the name Luray by the town's first postmaster, Charles R. Fitts. The municipality's name was chosen in recognition of Luray, Virginia, where Fitts had been discharged from Confederate service at the end of the Civil War. The post office was established in 1891, and predated the town's charter by a few months. Population: 131 (1900); 102 (1950); 115 (2000); 127 (2010).



**Welborn, Hudgens & Co., 5 Cents, (Pelzer, S.C.) – brass, 21mm.**

Welborn, Hudgens & Company was founded circa 1897 by Walter L. Welborn (1870-1934), Willis L. Hudgens (1852-1921), and G.H. Mahon (1863-1933). The firm operated a grocery store and meat counter in downtown Pelzer. When Mahon decided to withdraw from the business in 1900, the firm merged its line with the existing business of Ragsdale, Hudgens & Company, with J.C. Ragsdale buying out the interest of Mahon. Welborn continued in the new firm as store manager, but it lasted only one more year before becoming the long-lived Hudgens & Ragsdale partnership. Welborn later opened a furniture store in West Pelzer. He died in 1934 and was buried in Williamston Memorial Park in Williamston.



**Ruby Drug Co., GF 5¢ In Trade, Ruby, S.C. – aluminum, 18mm.**

The Ruby Drug Company received its corporate charter in January 1914 with Dr. Robert Murray Newsom (1890-1955), a local physician, listed as president and Robert Deleslin McCreight (1886-1954) listed as secretary. McCreight, who owned controlling interest, ran the store with a single clerk until the corporation was dissolved in 1917. This occurred after lengthy testimony in Federal District Court by both men concerning their sales of a certain patent medicine called *Wine of Cardui*. The concoction, produced by the Chattanooga Medicine Co., contained 20% alcohol by volume. It was advertised as a tonic for “female complaints”, but was often consumed solely for its intoxicating effects. Newsom had written prescriptions for *Wine of Cardui* for some of his female patients and McCreight had filled the prescriptions. Their testimony concerned the abuse and misuse of the concoction by their patients. From 1917 to 1919 McCreight continued in the drug business under his own name, but in 1920 gave up the drug store and opened a grocery. He ran the latter until the Great Depression put him out of business in 1934.

The Ruby Drug Company was resurrected in the early 1920s and was operated as an unincorporated business through the late 1950s. Dr. R.M. Newsom may have been associated with this second incarnation of the business, as he was known to have continued his medical practice in the area until his death in 1955. The token was likely issued around

1915 and may have been used in conjunction with some type of countertop trade stimulator which was favored by many drug stores of the times.



*Wine of Cardui* was a patent medicine often prescribed for women. It contained 20% alcohol by volume and was often misused for its alcohol content.



**Bridgeport Lumber Co., GF 5¢ In Merchandise, (St. Stephen, S.C.) – aluminum, 20mm.**

The Bridgeport Lumber Company was founded by Edward E. Nettleton (1853-1906), a wholesale lumber dealer from Bridgeport, Connecticut. Nettleton, who had dealt in lumber since the mid-1870s, procured the timber rights to a small tract of land in Berkeley County near the town of Saint Stephen. The company set up a small sawmill and purchased

a used locomotive to run on a 3 foot gauge railroad which snaked into the woods near the Santee River. The company cut timber for only two years, ceasing operations when Nettleton died in 1906. The holdings were then sold off, possibly to M.A. Floyd, who operated a sawmill in the area in 1908.



**A.L. Searson, GF Return Trip, Walterboro, S.C. – brass, 32mm.**

Allen Zachariah Searson (1877-1959) was born on Ben-Field Plantation near the community of Pocotaligo in what was then part of Hampton County. After managing a farm in rural Colleton County for several years, he and his family moved to the town of Walterboro around 1912. Directory listings from 1913 to 1916 show that Searson operated a livery stable there. In 1917 he became the proprietor of the Lord Albert Hotel, operating it until he sold the business to J.L. Rentz of Orangeburg in 1925. Rentz ran the hotel for two years until the building was sold to C.M. McTeer and the name of the hotel was changed to the Cooper-Reed Hotel. Searson then moved his family to Bolton Point Plantation near Ashepoo and began growing vegetables for market (truck farming). He died in 1959 and was interred in Live Oak Cemetery in Walterboro.

The building which housed the Lord Albert Hotel still stands. It was designed in 1911 by Atlanta architect George F. Clayton, who drew the plans for four interconnected buildings. One housed the Farmers & Merchants Bank, while the others housed various mercantile businesses. The hotel's rooms were located upstairs and the

establishment was one of the first commercial enterprises in town to offer both steam heat and a cooling system. The group of buildings was restored in 1995 and now hosts retail shops on the ground floors and apartments upstairs. The complex was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999.

The name on the token, A.L. Searson, is a typographical die-sinking error. Searson's middle name was Zachariah, as attested to by both his gravestone and his World War I draft registration. The token has not yet been cataloged in *The Atwood-Coffee Catalogue of United States and Canadian Transportation Tokens* but should appear in a future edition. The token was good for a return trip to the railroad depot.

Other denominations discovered for previously reported issuers are:

M.L. Harris, Allendale, S.C. – 25¢, round, brass  
W.C. Hatchell, (Bingham, S.C.) – 10¢, round, brass

Southern States Lumber Co., Dunbarton, S.C. – 50¢, round, aluminum

A.C.L. Co., R.L. Montague (signature), Georgetown, S.C. - \$1.00, round, bimetallic

J.B. Bissell, (Green Pond, S.C.) – 50¢, round, brass

W. Scott Harvin, (Manning, S.C.) – 75¢, round, brass

Zeigler's Pharmacy, Manning, S.C. - \$1.00, round, aluminum

## IN NEWCOMB WE TRUST

Don Bailey

The title above is not an attempt by the author to rile evangelicals. It refers only to the Greensboro token shown below which is of interest to, and desired by, most all North Carolina collectors.



The token is made of white metal and measures 21mm. The Newcomb in whom we are supposed to trust is one E. G. Newcomb who retailed alcohol in various forms in Greensboro from at least 1883 until 1903 or later.

We all know that tokens which self-identify as saloon tokens are exceedingly rare in the Carolinas. But apparently Newcomb ran a saloon at various times and perhaps continually. In the 1884 city directory for Greensboro we see a listing for “E. G. Newcomb, saloon and billiards, Davie St.”

Now it is interesting to note that in 1887 the Greensboro directory lists “E. G. Newcomb: wines and liquors, Odell bldg., S. Elm.” Did Newcomb close the saloon and start a retail liquor business? Or did the saloon on Davie Street and the retail business on Elm coexist?

In any event Newcomb continued his interest in saloons, even if his saloon business might have been off and on. In the *Greensboro Patriot* of February 6, 1901 we see the following. “At a meeting of the board of aldermen Saturday night, C. C. Shoffner & Co., R. P. Gorrell and T. K. Renigar were recommended to the county commissioners as suitable persons to conduct saloons. ... An adverse report was made on the application of E. G. Newcomb.” And, in the March 13, 1901 issue of the *Patriot* the request of G. A. Miller, of Reidsville, “to engage in the retail liquor business at E. G. Newcomb’s former stand” was postponed by the aldermen.

So it looks like Newcomb got crosswise of the city government. But he must have recovered, for again in the 1903 *North Carolina Yearbook*



and *Business Directory*, E. G. Newcomb is listed under the heading “Saloons.”

While the token shown above is widely known, the variation pictured below is generally unknown.



While it is hard to see, because the token is quite worn, the reverse here has a “5” where the 1891 token has a “V”. And this 1883 variety measures 25mm. It is clear that the phrase “In Newcomb We Trust” is in imitation of the motto on the shield nickels of 1866 to 1883. Interestingly enough, when Newcomb changed the “5” to a “V” on the 1891 variety he kept the phrase “In Newcomb We Trust” even though “In God We Trust” does not appear on the Liberty Head or “V” nickel.

### **North Carolina Token Collector**

Cataloger of North Carolina  
Buyer of singles or collections  
Trader list for all states  
Enthusiastic researcher

Robert (Bob) S. King 709 Cardinal Dr.  
Brevard, NC 28712 828-883-8028  
[tokenaddict@comporium.net](mailto:tokenaddict@comporium.net)

Want to buy southern states tokens,  
mavericks found in North Carolina.

Want to buy R.G. Dun and Bradstreet  
Reference Books. Need 1963 & newer,  
1882, 1884 & 1897.

## **TWO UNREPORTED NORTH CAROLINA INGLE TOKENS: NEAR AND DISTANT FINDS**

### **Lamar Bland**

The two unreported tokens are pictured below: Tillman Company (from Burlington), and W.A. Lloyd & Co. (from Chapel Hill).



**Tillman Company / 100 / (encircled “T”) // In Trade  
/ 100 / Pat. Jun. 1909 / Ingle System – R, Br, 35mm**



**W. A. Lloyd & Co. / 100 / (encircled “L”) // (same as  
shown above) -R, Br, 35mm**

These tokens were reported in Lloyd Wagaman’s *INGLE SYSTEM SCRIP* (TAMS, 1987), but they are found in only the “1” denomination. No location was then known for Tillman. And Lloyd & Co. was mistakenly attributed to Coal Creek, Colorado. Bob King has since located R.D. Tillman’s store at 413 Rainey Street in Burlington, and Ingle ledgers identify Lloyd and Co. as a store in Chapel Hill. As far as I know, the \$1.00 denominations have been unrecorded for more than 25 years.

My discoveries of them certainly brought pleasure because of their rarity. They also brought personal pleasures because of both proximity and distance. I search for Alamance County tokens because my entire professional career was at Elon University, next door to Burlington. I commute to Elon from my home in Durham, which is across-town from Chapel Hill. So I collect tokens from Durham and Orange counties. I bought the Lloyd token from someone in Wilkes, a northwestern N.C. county which I visit often.

I experienced an added degree of pleasure in finding the Tillman token. I bought it from a man who lived in Stebbins, Alaska. Check Stebbins out in your Rand McNally atlas. It's a short flight from there to the Arctic Circle! Or to Russia! To my surprise and delight, Stebbins is located southeast from Nome (diagonally across Norton Sound), where I have twice visited relatives from my mother's family.

No doubt many of you, like myself, have imagined the early conditions and destinations of tokens you own, when they return to their origin after a long absence.

## NEW FIND SPOTLIGHT: "FILL IN THE BLANKS"

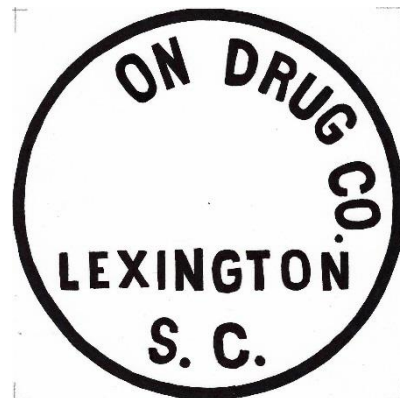
**Tony Chibbaro**

About 3 months ago I was able to obtain the token pictured below. As you can see, it was not in good condition. In fact, much of the obverse inscription was unreadable. But enough could be deciphered to determine that the token had been issued by a drug company in Lexington, South Carolina. Only the last two letters of the name of the drug company could be made out, however. Those two letters were "ON" and I immediately assumed that the token had been issued by the Lexington Drug Company. It was a good guess, but one that would ultimately prove to be incorrect.



**Token which I believed to be from the Lexington Drug Co., aluminum, 19mm.**

I was able to find listings in mercantile directories for the Lexington Drug Company in 1905. So I dutifully cataloged this new find under the town of Lexington. But it was not until I was looking at the token a little more closely that I realized the letters I assumed were missing from the token, "LEXINGT", would probably not fit comfortably into the space left available. To prove this one way or the other, I printed out a photograph of the obverse of the token and traced the visible letters on a piece of tracing paper. Sure enough, the seven letters would not fit into the space allowed on the token.



**Obverse Tracing of Token.**

I went back to my mercantile directories and did find the name of another drug company with fewer letters and which also ended in "ON". I tried placing the appropriate letters onto my tracing and they fit perfectly. The illustration shown below shows what an



undamaged token would look like and a short history of the drug store follows.



**Harmon Drug Co., GF 5¢ Soda, Lexington, S.C. – aluminum, 19mm.**

In 1912, after a short and unsuccessful career as an insurance agent, Rice Boozer Harmon (1877-1962) purchased the assets of the Kaufman Drug Company in downtown

Lexington from owner J.E. Kaufman. A recent honor graduate of the Maryland School of Pharmacy, Harmon quickly changed the name of the drug store to the Harmon Drug Company and eventually became the town of Lexington's primary druggist. In 1920, in recognition of his excellence in the profession, he was appointed chairman of the 11th Circuit Organization of Druggists. Harmon operated his Rexall-affiliated store on Main Street for 50 years, right up until his death in 1962 at the age of 84. He was interred in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Cemetery in Lexington. After his death, the business was continued by his son Rice B. Harmon II on Main Street in Lexington until 1981.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### WANTED

**WILL PAY \$400 EACH FOR TOKENS FROM ANGELUS, CHAPIN, DAVIS STATION, DUNBARTON, OR KEGTOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA.** Tokens must have the town and state names on them and must be in nice condition. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127, cellphone: 803-530-3668  
email: [CHIBBARO@MINDSPRING.COM](mailto:CHIBBARO@MINDSPRING.COM),

### SALE

**THREE FOR ONE OFFER, OR INDIVIDUAL SALE.** Masonic tokens: Saluda, SC and Patterson, NJ pennies. St. Paul Royal Arch Chapter / 1818 (Boston). Even better than fully legible. Lamar Bland [BLANDL@ELON.EDU](mailto:BLANDL@ELON.EDU).

**ORA MILL STORE, SHELBY, NC SEVEN PIECE SET.** Yes, this includes the \$5.00 piece. \$50 postpaid. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC 28729, or [ELADON@MORRISBB.NET](mailto:ELADON@MORRISBB.NET).

### MISCELLEANOUS

**DON'T MISS THE APRIL 30 MEETING. THERE WILL BE MORE NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA TOKENS THERE THAN YOU CAN FIND IN ONE PLACE ANYWHERE ELSE!**

**CARTS Membership and Dues:** Application for membership in CARTS is invited from anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

**CARTSNEWS:** CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

**Advertising:** Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected. Deadline for classified ads is the same as for paid ads (see below).

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.